## **REVIEWS**

**BOOKS** Reviewed by Ruth Parnell

#### NASA, NAZIS & JFK: The Torbitt Document & The Kennedy Assassination

#### Introduction by Kenn Thomas

Published by Adventures Unlimited Press (1996), Kempton, IL, USA ISBN 0-932813-39-9 (249pp s/c) Price: AUD\$25.00; NZD\$34.00 + p&h; STG£13.95; USD\$16.00 + p&h Available: **Australia**—NEXUS Magazine, ph (07) 5442 9280, fax (07) 5442 9381; **NZ**—NEXUS Office, ph (09) 416 7320, fax (09) 416 7340; **UK**—NEXUS Office, ph 01342 322854, fax 01342 324574; **USA**—Adventures Unlimited, PO Box 74, Kempton, IL 60946, ph (815) 253 6390, fax (815) 253 6300.

In 1970, a photocopied document, "Nomenclature of an Assassination Cabal", was circulated on a small scale among conspiracy researchers. The document was written by William Torbitt (not his real name), supposedly a lawyer from the American southwest. It is now reprinted in book form and at last readily accessible.

The allegations made in the Torbitt Document are damning and they reveal a far grander conspiracy surrounding the JFK assassination. The document outlines the powerful role of the military-industrial complex, and highlights connections to NASA's space program and the former Nazi rocket scientist Werner von Braun, recruited under *Operation Paperclip*, who headed up the little-known Defense Industrial Security Command. Intriguing details surface on the the top-secret Area 51 in Nevada, the possibility of a faked Moon mission, and a NWO agenda involving ETs and off-planet bases. Torbitt's document is expanded with intro-

Press editor Kenn Thomas, and supported by some rare and revealing photographs including the famous Thomas/LBJ 'wink' photo.

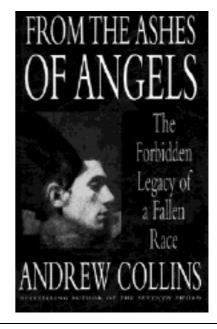
## FROM THE ASHES OF ANGELS: The Forbidden Legacy of a Fallen Race by Andrew Collins

Published by Michael Joseph Ltd/Penguin Group (1996), London, UK ISBN 0-7181-4132-6 (461pp h/c) Price: AUD\$29.95; NZD\$49.95; STG£16.99; USD\$38.95; CAN\$29.99 Available: **Aust**—Cameron Books Pty Ltd, 68 Winbourne Rd, Hazelbrook, NSW 2779, ph/fax (047) 58 7676; Sydney Esoteric Bookshop, 408 Elizabeth St, Surry Hills, NSW 2010, ph (02) 9212 2225, fax (02) 9212 2448; **NZ**—Penguin, ph (09) 444 4965; **UK**—Penguin, ph 0171 416 3200; **USA/Canada**—Books Britain, ph (212) 749 4713.

Civilisation is the legacy of a lost, advanced race of beings whose existence is the stuff of myth and legend, according to Andrew Collins, for whom *From The Ashes of Angels* is the culmination of a 10-year study of the archaeology and pre-history of Egypt and the Near East.

But far from being the 'fallen angels' of mythology, Collins maintains that these beings—the Watchers—were a flesh-andblood race. They were extremely tall with viper-like features, and practised shamanic magic. Their efforts to nurture a high civilisation were cut short at the end of the last ice age, c.9000 BC, when geological and climatic disasters forced them to flee Egypt to safer ground—Kurdistan, in fact. Collins cites evidence for their existence in the Dead Sea Scrolls, in the Judaic Book of Enoch, in ancient Persian texts and in strange artefacts found in northern Iraq and Turkey. Typically, the organised religions have tried to suppress this truth about their existence and their influence on human development.

Collins concludes that Kurdistan became the Watchers' new home base, or Eden, where they continued as an insular colony for 4,000 years before they again became integrated with developing human society. They appear to have left behind a clear warning that cataclysmic fate could befall future civilisations.



## <u>REVIEWS</u>



BOOKS

#### THE GREAT BOOK OF HEMP by Rowan Robinson

Published by Park Street Press (1996), Rochester, VT, USA ISBN 0-89281-541-8 (255pp s/c) Price: AUD\$29.95; NZD\$49.95; STG£15.99; USD\$19.95 + USD\$3.00 p&h; CAN\$28.00 + p&h Available: **Aust**—Cameron Books, ph/fax (047) 58 7676; Sydney Esoteric Bookshop, ph (02) 9212 2225; **NZ**— Tandem Press, ph (09) 480 1452, fax (09) 480 1455; **UK**—Deep Books, ph 0171 232 2747; **USA**—Inner Traditions, ph (802) 767 3174, 1-800 246 8648; **Canada**—Publishers Group West, ph (416) 504 3900.

Cannabis, or Indian hemp, the most maligned and misunderstood plant of the 20th century, has been the most important and useful plant through history. It has been used in the pursuit of spiritual enlightenment and, as mankind's first fibre crop, has been the economic foundation of civilisations. The oldest hemp fibres were discovered in a tomb at Çatal Hüyük dating back to 8,000 BC, and evidence from ancient Egypt, India and China suggests that hemp and hemp seed oil were prized for their medicinal benefits.

Made into sailcloth and rigging, hemp assisted in Columbus' discovery of the New World; and, made into paper, it bore the immortal words of the US Declaration of Independence and Constitution. It was even the common means of exchange in the Americas until the early 1800s.

The Great Book of Hemp documents this

plant's glorious heritage, in juxtaposition with the conspiratorial moves to hinder technological advances in harvesting and processing, the insidious banning of the plant with the US *Marihuana Tax Act* of 1937, its brief re-emergence for the war effort, and its McCarthyist clampdown. Fortunately, attempts to redress this madness are underway in several countries where commercial hemp production is now legal and hemp is being recognised for its commercial, medicinal and environmental value.

This book contains plenty of resource info (for North America and Europe) for anyone wanting to participate in reinstating the most useful plant in the world to its former glory.

### TOP SECRET/MAJIC by Stanton T. Friedman

Published by Marlowe & Company (1996), New York, USA ISBN 1-56924-830-3 (286pp h/c) Price: AUD\$45.00; STG£20.99; USD\$22.95; CAN\$32.50 Available: **Aust**—Cameron Books, ph/fax (047) 58 7676; Sydney Esoteric Bookshop, ph (02) 9212 2225; **UK**— Gazelle Book Services, ph 01524 68765; **USA/Canada**—Publishers Group West, ph (416) 504 3900.

In 1984, when a document referring to the mysterious Majestic-12 was leaked to him, nuclear physicist/professional ufologist Stanton Friedman embarked on a new mission. His latest book, *Top Secret/Majic*, is the result of 12 years of research into the MJ-12 documents concerning the recovery of a crashed UFO at Corona near Roswell, New Mexico, in 1947 and the establishment of a top-level group by President Truman to deal with the saucer and its alien inhabitants.

Friedman has painstakingly searched through 15 document archives for background and cross-referencing on MJ-12 members. The cast includes the first four directors of the CIA, various military leaders and several outstanding scientists including the Harvard astronomer Dr Donald Menzel who was a public debunker of UFOs, yet had a long-term association with the NSA and CIA. Many of these documents are published in this book for the first time.

Friedman is well-placed to research the Majestic-12 mystery for, in 1978, he was the first to begin seriously investigating the socalled Roswell incident, eventually publishing his findings in his book, *Crash at Corona*. Yet, for the conclusions he makes about these documents, Friedman continues to incur the wrath of many UFO researchers who make desperate attempts to discredit him and debunk the validity of the documents. Nevertheless, thanks to Friedman, some of the truth is at last being uncovered.

	$\odot$
2009 - ST - A - T	7
ALCO DE MARINE DE MARINE DE LA COLLEGA DE	d
NUCLEAR PAYSACIST	_
Stanton T. Friedman	Ν
	-
	1
	LL.
	8
	$\odot$
By the Collector of CRABNAT COMMAN	0,
The Bufferbire Branky of the	
BOR WILL INCOMENT A STATE OF	۵.
Forowers by MONTLEY STREEDER	0
ь.	$\vdash$

### BOOKS

#### BLOODLINE OF THE HOLY GRAIL: The Hidden Lineage of Jesus Revealed by Laurence Gardner

Published by Element Books (1996), UK ISBN 1-85230-870-2 (510pp h/c) Price: AUD\$34.95; NZD\$49.95; STG£16.99; USD\$29.95; CAN\$39.99 Available: **Aust**—Cameron Books, ph/fax (047) 58 7676; Sydney Esoteric Bookshop, ph (02) 9212 2225; **NZ**— Forrester Books, ph (09) 444 1948; **UK**— Penguin Books, ph 0181 899 4000; **USA/Canada**—Books Britain, ph (212) 749 4713.

The allegation that Jesus married and had children—and that his descendants are still alive today—first received public attention in 1982 with the release of controversial bestseller, *The Holy Blood and The Holy Grail*, by Baigent, Leigh and Lincoln. But where this book leaves off, *Bloodline of the Holy Grail* only begins.

This extraordinary book gives a detailed genealogical account of the authentic line of succession from the sons of Jesus and his brother James, through centuries of royal houses down to recent times. Distinguished author Laurence Gardner was granted privileged access to European Sovereign and Noble archives as well as Chivalric and Church records. He has uncovered documentation proving that knowledge of this sacred lineage has been systematically suppressed. Moreover, he has exposed a multitude of errors deliberately written into the history books through the ages.

Gardner provides a thorough analysis of the origins of the Bloodline and traces the

descent of Jesus from King David. He examines the real truth behind the Arthurian legends and the Holy Grail as well as the role of the Knights Templar in preserving the Grail legacy. The trail winds its way to the Royal House of Stewart and beyond in a conspiracy that reverbrated across the Atlantic—and still resounds today.

This is a most scholarly, awe-inspiring work, further supported by a wealth of photographs, maps and genealogical charts.

### THE RIDDLE OF THE PACIFIC by John Macmillan Brown

Published by Adventures Unlimited Press (1996), USA (first published by T. Fisher Unwin Ltd, London, UK, 1924) ISBN 0-932813-29-1 (325pp s/c) Price: AUD\$28.00; NZD\$32.00 + p&h; STG£13.95 + p&h; USD\$16.95 + p&h Available: **Aust**—NEXUS Magazine, ph (07) 5442 9280, fax (07) 5442 9381; **NZ**—NEXUS Office, ph (09) 416 7320, fax (09) 416 7340; **UK**—NEXUS Office, ph 01342 322854, fax 01342 324574; **USA**—Adventures Unlimited, ph (815) 253 6390, fax (815) 253 6300.

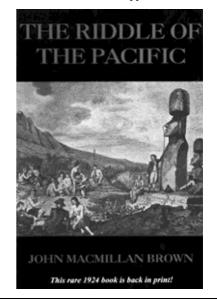
This rare book on Pacific archaeology and anthropology is now back in print after more than 70 years. Written by John Macmillan Brown, an Oxford scholar, founding professor at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, as well as prolific author and traveller, *The Riddle of the Pacific* is a classic text for its revelations about the roots of early 20th century culture in the Pacific and its evidence for a vast megalithic civilisation once having flourished in the region.

Macmillan Brown's story begins on Easter Island where he reports his findings about the people, their enigmatic sculpture, their

## **REVIEWS**

rituals, language and writing script, and speculates about their demise. Moving to the islands of Polynesia, Micronesia and New Zealand, he continues to document Pacific islander culture and draws fascinating connections among all these cultures, comparing their ancient stonework and road systems, their wartime and peacetime customs, their religions, languages and more. Further, he outlines similarities with cultures based on the Pacific coast of South America. The photographs, illustrations and maps are very special for their historical significance.

Did these Pacific cultures spread because of the islanders' seafaring skills or were their cultures once part of a vast lost continent whose megalithic remnants still defy explanation in modern times? Macmillan Brown's thesis seems to support both.



# **REVIEWS**



WHO'S WHO OF THE ELITE by Robert Gaylon Ross, Sr

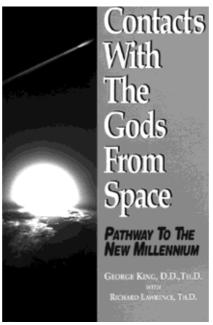
Published by Ross International Enterprises (1995), San Marcos, TX, USA ISBN 0-9649888-0-1 (277pp l/f s/c) Price: AUD\$52.00 in Aust; USD\$25.95 + p&h in USA/Canada; USD\$32.90 Aust/NZ airmail; USD\$30.90 UK/Europe airmail

Available: **Aust**—Cameron Books, ph/fax (074) 58 7676; **USA**—RIE, 1700-A R.R. 12, #325, San Marcos, TX 78666-2502, ph/fax (512) 396 7000, 1-800 410 5571.

If a global 'elite' is indeed hellbent on controlling the world, and it's names that you want, then this is the book that names names. *Who's Who of the Elite* is primarily a book of lists: plenty of characters but, as far as plot is concerned, you'll have to read between the lines, consult the wealth of references in the conspiracy literature, or wait for the release of the author's follow-up book, *They Don't Dare Let Us Tell The People*.

The 'elite' featured in this volume are members of the Council on Foreign Relations and the Trilateral Commission, as well as the much more secretive Bilderberg group (whose 1995 listing was supplied by the *Spotlight* newspaper). Not as current, but still useful is the author's reprint of Antony Sutton's 1986 Yale Skull & Bones list.

Author Robert Gaylon Ross, Sr, doesn't profess to have all the 'day job' details pertaining to each member but he welcomes





input from readers so he may better update these lists in due course. He lists names alphabetically, and also according to affiliation, whether in government, administration, the judiciary, law, finance, industry, education, the media, unions, foreign nation, etc. What's also interesting are his summaries of membership distribution among these elite networks, plus charts which cross-reference banking families and other NWO elitists.

Having all these lists together in the one book is certainly a boon for conspiracy researchers and armchair media-watchers. Keep it handy when you're watching TV!

#### CONTACTS WITH THE GODS FROM SPACE: Pathway to the New Millennium

**by George King, with Richard Lawrence** Published by The Aetherius Society (1996), CA, USA

ISBN 0-937249-15-7 (160pp s/c) Price: AUD\$32.00; NZD\$32.00; STG£9.95; USD\$14.95 + p&h; Available: **Aust**—The Aetherius Society, ph (02) 9949 6038; **NZ**—A/S, ph (09) 444 4065; **UK**—A/S, ph 0171 736 4187, fax 0171 731 1067; **USA**—A/S, ph (213) 465 9652, fax (213) 462 5165.

So much information has come out in recent years about contacts with ETs, yet little is sufficiently encompassing to satisfy our thirst for the whole truth. Why should our attention be diverted towards entities who desire to be masters of the physical universe? Surely there has to be more—much more.

One individual who appreciates the vastness of our possibilities is Sir George King, DD, ThD, a yogic master who, for over 40 years has been in communication with extraterrestrial intelligences existing on higher vibrational planes within our solar system.

In 1954, on the instruction of a member of the Great White Brotherhood, Sir George founded The Aetherius Society for the purpose of bringing enlightenment to mankind through service. He channels a selection of Cosmic Masters who have given him hundreds of teachings for dissemination through the Society. He has even been required to transfer cosmic energy to power centres across the planet.

The teachings explained in *Contacts with the Gods from Space* answer many questions about humanity's origins, the role of ETs in our development and why UFOs are so active now, but they also advocate the principle of spiritual ecology to assist us in creating a positive future where the opportunity for communication beyond the physical dimensions becomes possible and, indeed, is our true birthright.

DECEMBER 1996 - JANUARY 1997



EMERGING VIRUSES: AIDS & Ebola— Nature, Accident or Intentional? by Leonard G. Horowitz, D.M.D., M.A. Published by Tetrahedron Publishing Group (1996), Rockport, MA, USA ISBN 0-923550-12-7 (590pp h/c) Price: AUD\$60.00; USD\$29.95 + \$4.50 p&h; CAN\$36.00 + \$8.00 p&h Available: Aust—Cameron Books, ph/fax (047) 58 7676; USA—Tetrahedron Publishing Group, 20 Drumlin Rd, Rockport, MA 01966, ph (508) 546 6586, 1-800 336 9266, fax (508) 546 9226.

This is the most comprehensive exploration yet of the origin of the world's most feared and deadly viruses—AIDS and Ebola. Written by Harvard graduate and independent scientific/medical researcher Dr Leonard Horowitz, *Emerging Viruses* is an in-depth study into whether these viruses were accidentally or deliberately created and released—as opposed to being 'naturally' spread by African green monkeys.

Dr Horowitz delves into the Cold War climate that fostered the biological warfare programs of the military-industrial-pharmaceutical complex to create rogue immunesystem-ravaging pathogens and other scourges as part of a New World Order agenda.

It is Dr Horowitz's conclusion that AIDS most likely evolved from early cancer virus vaccine experiments where military scientists (Fort Detrick) co-opted with pharmaceutical companies (Litton Bionetics, Merck, Sharp and Dohme, Hazelton Research) to infect monkeys with viral genes from other animals to produce an array of illnesses for the National Cancer Institute's human cancer vaccine trials. He cites convincing evidence for AIDS having emerged in labs as a result of sample contamination, finding its way into experimental hepatitis, polio and smallpox vaccines used in trials in the US and Africa during the 1970s. The dreaded haemorrhagic fever viruses Ebola and Marburg may well have emerged in similar fashion.

This is a controversial and exhaustively referenced account that exposes a number of well-known public figures for their part in implementing a global conspiracy.

#### SMUGGLED-2: Wildlife Trafficking, Crime and Corruption in Australia by Raymond Hoser

Published by Kotabi Pty Ltd (1996), Victoria, Australia

ISBN 0-9586769-0-9 (279pp s/c) Price: AUD\$24.95 inc. p&h in Aust.; overseas orders, add AUD\$5.00 airmail Available: **Australia**—Kotabi Pty Ltd, PO Box 599, Doncaster, Vic. 3108, ph +61 (0)3 9857 4491, fax +61 (0)3 9857 4664.

DECEMBER 1996 - JANUARY 1997

Raymond Hoser is an author and internationally regarded authority on Australian reptiles. Ironically, some of these 'reptiles' hold down desk jobs with various government departments! Hoser knows all too well the tactics that corrupt bureaucrats employ in sanctioning illegal trafficking in rare fauna, and the lengths to which they will go to gag a lone voice in the wilderness for the sake of immense profit.

The prequel to this book, *Smuggled: The Underground Trade in Australia's Wildlife*, was banned for a time due to pressure applied by the New South Wales National Parks & Wildlife Service. Even before the release of *Smuggled-2*, Hoser learnt that two national book distributors as well as print and electronic media have already been 'leaned on' in an attempt to stop his latest revelations getting out to the public at large.

Smuggled-2 is a savage reminder that highlevel corruption, costing taxpayers millions of dollars, continues to rise unchecked when it's supported by a web of criminal activity extending into illegal drug-trafficking and arms dealing. At great personal risk, Hoser has 'dug up the dirt' on wildlife smuggling at both national and international levels. He names names and supports his claims with documentary and photographic evidence. When arson, bashings, bribery, court-fixing, forgery, murders, phone-tapping, theft and victimisation are the order of the day, corruption is well out of control. Sadly, "wildlife" has taken on a whole new meaning.

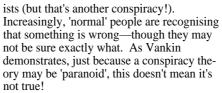
## CONSPIRACIES, COVER-UPS & CRIMES by Jonathan Vankin

Published by IllumiNet Press (1996), Lilburn, GA, USA ISBN 1-881532-09-7 (412pp s/c) Price: AUD\$27.00; NZD\$38.00 + p&h; STG£12.95; USD\$16.95 + p&h Available: **Aust**—NEXUS Magazine, ph (07) 5442 9280, fax (07) 5442 9381; **NZ**—NEXUS Office, ph (09) 416 7320, fax (09) 416 7340; **UK**—Counter Productions, PO Box 556, London SE5 ORL; **USA**—Adventures Unlimited, ph (815) 253 6390, fax (815) 253 6300.

If you missed out on Jonathan Vankin's 1992 classic, *Conspiracies, Cover-ups & Crimes*, now's your chance to add it to your collection with IllumiNet's just-released paperback edition with all-new introduction.

According to Vankin, the US conspiracy territory has changed considerably even in half a decade, and, thanks to the Internet and even *The X-Files*, it has crept closer to the mainstream—though mainstream media would still have us believe that conspiracy theorists are all paranoid right-wing extrem-





In his 1992 edition, Vankin declared the '90s "The Conspiracy Decade". He wasn't wrong, for in the meantime—with events such as Waco, the mystery surrounding the death of Vince Foster and a multitude of others connected with Bill Clinton, the Oklahoma Bombing, UN tank-spotting across the US, and new JFK assassination revelations—conspiracy theories are looking more like out-and-out conspiracies.

Vankin's original text, written between 1988-1991, remains largely unchanged in this edition. His commentaries, on everything from Votescam, Larouche, UFOs, JFK, CIA and the drug war, secret societies and the world government, are essential background reading, even if you never thought you were interested in conspiracy politics.

#### GODS OF THE NEW MILLENNIUM: Scientific Proof of Flesh & Blood Gods by Alan F. Alford

Published by Eridu Books (1996), UK ISBN 0-9527994-0-5 (479pp h/c) Price: AUD\$62.50; NZD\$72.00; STG£27.60; USD\$46.00 (prices inc. p&h) Available: **UK**—Eridu Books, PO Box 107, Walsall WS9 9YR, England, ph +44 (0)1543 452577, fax +44 (0)1543 452578, web: http://www.eridu.co.uk

This book is the result of author Alan Alford's 10-year quest to document the intervention of flesh-and-blood gods in humanity's development—and herald their possible imminent return. With the sudden emergence of *Homo sapiens* 200,000 years ago defying all the principles of evolutionary theory, and the biblical creation account being at odds with the laws of physics, the fact that we *are* here rather defies explanation.

To gather material for *Gods of the New Millennium*, Alford has travelled to ancient sites around the globe to determine for himself their commonalities. He has also embarked on an extensive critique of Zecharia Sitchin's studies of Sumeria as the 'first civilisation' (though we might well dispute this assumption), but he has revised his chronology through the discovery of a simple mathematical key. As a result, Alford claims to be able to match the creation of mankind with the most recent scientific estimates and reconcile the arrival of the gods and mankind's creation with the independently verifiable date of the Great Flood.

Alford has also developed a new theory on the importance of the 25,920-year precessional cycle and reasons that Machu Picchu and Stonehenge were both sites connected to the change from the era of Taurus to Aries over 4,000 years ago.

This book contains many controversial claims which challenge scientific orthodoxy, but it is well worth studying because it expands the boundaries of the knowable.

### RUMORS OF EXISTENCE by Matthew A. Bille

Published by Hancock House (1995), Canada and USA ISBN 0-88839-335-0 (192pp s/c) Price: AUD\$26.00; NZD\$29.95 + p&h; STG£9.99; USD\$12.95 + p&h Available: **Aust**—Cameron Books, ph/fax (047) 58 7676; **NZ**—NEXUS Office, ph (09) 416 7320, fax (09) 416 7340; **UK**— Gazelle Book Services, ph 01524 68765; **USA**—Adventures Unlimited, ph (815) 253 6390, fax (815) 253 6300.

Subtitled "Newly Discovered, Supposedly Extinct, and Unconfirmed Inhabitants of the Animal Kingdom", *Rumors of Existence* documents, albeit briefly, the vast gaps in our knowledge about the animal world.

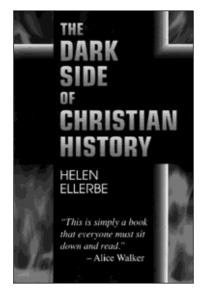
Despite valid concerns about our planet's dwindling biodiversity, it's amazing to learn that since 1940 an average of three new birds and more than three new mammal species have been described each year. For instance, in 1992 in Vietnam near the Laotian border, an international scientific team discovered a large mammal, the Vu Quang oryx. But, as is often the case, the indigenous people are already aware of these unclassified creatures but just haven't told the outside world!





Author Matthew Bille highlights two dozen of these new global discoveries, but adds to his catalogue with an equally lengthy rundown of animals presumed extinct, but for which evidence for their continued existence often resurfaces. These 'lost' animals include the Tasmanian tiger, the aye-aye lemur of Madagascar and the Sinai leopard. Finally, Bille describes some of the mystery animals that are the stuff of legend or at least very rare sightings, e.g., a giant gecko, a dolphin with two dorsal fins, and a giant octopus. One day, these and many more elusive creatures may be described by zoologists.

This book may not be big on illustrations for obvious reasons, but Bille has included an extensive reference list to please the most ardent cryptozoology freak.



## THE DARK SIDE OF CHRISTIAN HISTORY

by Helen Ellerbe Published by Morningstar Books (1995), San Rafael, CA, USA ISBN 0-9644873-4-9 (228pp s/c) Price: AUD\$26.00; USD\$12.95 Available: Aust—Cameron Books, ph/fax (047) 58 7676; Sydney Esoteric Bookshop, ph (02) 9212 2225; USA— Morningstar Books, PO Box 4032, San Rafael, CA 94913, ph (415) 472 6000.

While admittedly not a complete picture of the history of the Christian Church, Helen Ellerbe's book is a succinct account of the dark legacy that permeates Western society and has fostered (as it still does) sexism, racism, fear, war, competition, domination and environmental degradation for the last two millennia. By shedding light on this dark history, Ellerbe aims to show how the Church has controlled the individual's direct spiritual connection to the divine and has

political manoeuvrings of the Church in

Rome; the irrational decisions made on dogma in the early centuries AD; the plunge into the Dark Ages where education, science, technology, medicine, history, art and commerce were effectively wiped out; the Crusades and pogroms of the Middle Ages; the Inquisition; Catholic vs Protestant faction-fighting of the Reformation and Counter Reformation; witch-burnings; the alienation of nature in the so-called Age of Enlightenment; and the enforcement of a limited scientific paradigm upon human thought and creativity in the ensuing period.

robbed humanity of freedom and dignity.

The episodes she covers include the early

The author contends that by ignoring the 'dark side' of Christian history and not examining the belief systems and ideologies which have promoted cruelty through the centuries, we perpetuate the idea that man has an inherently evil nature. Consequently, destructive patterns continue to alienate people from God, Nature and each other.

#### YOU CAN HAVE YOUR PERMACULTURE AND EAT IT TOO by Robin Clayfield

Published by Earthcare Education (1996), Queensland, Australia ISBN 0-646-28784-2 (257pp l/f s/c) Price: AUD\$38.00 inc. p&h in Aust; overseas orders phone for p&h quote Available: **Australia**—Earthcare Education, 58 Crystal Waters, MS16, Maleny, QId 4552, ph +61 (0)7 5494 4707.

This is an inspiring, self-help manual for gardeners who like to cook, and cooks who like to garden. Author/teacher Robin Clayfield has an holistic, hands-on approach to promoting permaculture principles and self-sufficiency techniques for a healthier, more fulfilling, sustainable lifestyle.

Step by step, Robin covers all the essential elements of permaculture design, preparing, planting, harvesting and seed-saving for all manner of foods—grains, vegetables, fruit orchards, herbs—and even includes small animal husbandry in the scheme. In this total approach, important considerations such as biodiversity, biodynamics, energy efficiency, irrigation, mulching, natural pest control, seasonality, and more, are well covered.

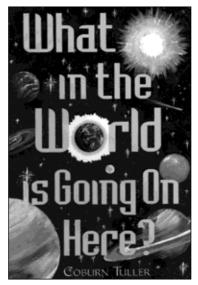
Robin's experience in teaching courses in permaculture design, gardening and cooking holds her in good stead here, for (with a little help from her Crystal Waters friends) she presents the information with easy-to-understand charts, diagrams and illustrations. She also includes contributions from colleagues specialising in the permaculture field.

So, the reward for producing all this

# **REVIEWS**

delightful, energetic food is to eat it—lovingly and joyfully! Robin comprehensively covers everything from menu planning, budgeting, selecting cooking tools, to preparing bush food and making preserves. She includes a vast array of tempting recipes with loads of practical advice. Robin's hands-in-the-earth enthusiasm will encourage even the non-cooks and non-gardeners out there!

B O O K S



## WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON HERE?

by Coburn Tuller

Published by Butterfly (1995), MO, USA ISBN 1-886322-17-1 (331pp s/c) Price: AUD\$35.00; NZD\$39.95 + p&h; USD\$17.50 + p&h; CAN\$25.00 + p&h Available: Aust—Cameron Books, ph/fax (047) 58 7676; NZ—NEXUS Office, ph (09) 416 7320, fax (09) 416 7340; USA— Adventures Unlimited, ph (815) 253 6390, fax (815) 253 6300.

Yes, there is a light at the end of the tunnel, but it's not necessarily a train coming! Seriously, this is a book about the journey of a lifetime—the search to find the Source of Light and Love within. Author Coburn Tuller embarked on his quest to find his nebulous destination when he knew he needed to change, knew he was yet to 'arrive', though he had no idea of the vastness of the territory he had yet to discover.

He has written *What in the World is Going* on *Here*? as a guidebook for fellow travellers who have lost their bearings. If you feel the need to embark upon a journey of self-discovery and spiritual transformation but are still waiting for your train to come in or don't even know where to get on, then



this book is guaranteed to give you the pushstart you're looking for.

But first things first: get rid of that excess baggage! As Tuller found out, it's impossible to tune into that true lightness of being when we're weighed down with mental constructs and emotional chains which hinder expansion into the intuitive realms and prevent progress on the spiritual path. Even seasoned travellers may suddenly find themselves back on the right track, for Tuller reminds us that love and wisdom is within reach of anyone who seeks it. And we can bring our sense of humour along for the ride!

#### "Q" MECHANICS

by Terry J. Skrinjar & Steven T. Walker Published by T. J. Skrinjar & S. T. Walker (1996), Queensland, Australia ISBN 0-646-29325-7 (110pp s/c) Price: AUD\$35.00 + AUD\$4.50 p&h in Aust; NZ airmail add AUD\$7.50; airmail elsewhere, add AUD\$12.50 Available: Australia—JEKA Distributors, PO Box 2203, Toowoomba, Qld 4350, ph +61 (0)76 34 5952.

Barely a week passes without NEXUS receiving a new theory about life, the universe and everything. Each one represents a painstaking, praiseworthy and often lifelong effort on the part of the theorist, but few are presented in a way that makes them easily readable, let alone understandable, so few manage to get published despite the fact that their authors may well be onto something.

In this instance, authors Terry Skrinjar and Steve Walker have self-published their own theory in an easy-to-absorb format supported by clear diagrams. They claim that "Q" Mechanics can explain not only the creation of energy but creation itself—in its entirety! This is a big claim, but, for the assumptions they overturn in their rationale, their theory is well worthy of analysis.

The authors point out the pitfalls in the mathematical and physical constructs we use to define reality (but they sure don't waste space on equations). They define energy as an effect of an effect. They throw out the old atomic model and throw over an advanced matrix field concept to redefine theories of space, electricity, gravity, inertia and magnetism. The resonance of an object *is* that object. This does make sense, but it has a familiar ring to it as if this has already been defined in 'frontier science' territory.

But, new science dabblers, don't despair: this slim tome contains specifications (and warnings) on how to build a device to create "Q energy". Could this be the holy grail of free energy? You be the judge!



A U D I O Reviewed by Richard Giles

### THE MUSIC OF THE GRAND CANYON by Nicholas Gunn

Produced by Nicholas Gunn for Real Music (1995), Sausalito, CA, USA Catalogue no. RM1422 (53mins) Price: AUD\$18.95, USD\$10.00 (cass.); AUD\$28.95, USD\$16.00 (CD) Available: **Australia**—New World Productions, ph (07) 3367 0788; **USA**— Real Music, ph (415) 3311 8275.

The keyboard master is back again with a third album. His previous two, *Afternoon in Sedona*, and *The Sacred Fire*, were very successful and among my favourites of the year when released. To capture the feel of the Grand Canyon is some grand feat, and Nicholas Gunn has done it! When I first visited the place, there were simply no words to express the stunning experience of the Canyon's vastness, and I feel that same power on Gunn's album. Three particularly special tracks are "Entering Twin Falls", "Flight Over North Rim", and the title track, "Grand Canyon". Well recommended.

#### **AFRO-DESIA**

#### by Steven Halpern & Suru

Produced by Steven Halpern for Inner Peace Music (1996), USA Cat. no. SRXD 9004 (69mins) Price: AUD\$19.95, USD\$9.98 (cass.); AUD\$29.95, USD\$14.98 (CD) Available: **Aust**—MRA Entertainment, ph (07) 3849 6020; **USA**—Inner Peace Music, ph (415) 485 5321, 1-800 909 0707.

Steve Halpern is widely known for his relaxation/ambient music, with a career spanning 20 years. Deciding to take a shift to some high-energy music and return to his roots in rhythm/soul, he recorded an album with Suru Ekeh, the (late) master Nigerian drummer. It's great to hear Halpern move with a combination of percussion and West African/jazz. The most exciting track, "Afro-Desia", is first up, followed by wonderful drum/rhythm pieces, some louder and others more gentle. Joyful drumming.

#### OLE, OLE by Rachid Taha

Produced by Steve Hillage for FKO Music (1995), France Cat. no. CD529.481-2 (56mins) Price: AUD\$19.95 (cass.), AUD\$29.95 (CD) Available: **Aust**—Island/Mango Records, ph (02) 9207 0500; **Europe**—FKO Music,

France, ph +33 1 43 70 55 27; Metronome, Germany.

DECEMBER 1996 - JANUARY 1997

Here's an album that takes some classifying. Rachid does not want his work to be known as world music, but at the same time his arrangements and sounds seem to be sampled from all over the French, Iberian and Arab-Mediterranean regions. Songs like the sunny "Valencia" mix with the luted "Baadini", the aggressive "Boire", hip-hop "Zaâma", tongue-in-cheek "Tabla Motown" and the techno "Non Non Non". It's wonderfully innovative material. Great dance music with some incisive social comment. Well recommended.

## THE HALF TAIL by Wolfstone

Produced by Chris Harley for Green Linnet Records (1996), Danbury, USA Cat. no. GLCD 1172 (43mins) Price: AUD\$19.95, USD\$8.50 (cass.); AUD\$29.95, USD\$15.00 (CD) Available: **Aust**—Movieplay Australia, ph (02) 9905 0199, fax (02) 9905 6372; **USA**—Green Linnet Records, ph 1-800 468 6644, fax (203) 778 4443.

These guys mix wild Celtic reels and jigs with a rocky band beat. Songs range through the sentimental quiet soul of Celtic to the swinging pipes and whistles of vigorous Irish/Scottish flings. All the music was recorded in Scotland but released by Green Linnet, a US record company devoted to promoting the best of traditional Celtic music. Put this album on when you feel like lifting your feet, having a good time, and swaying to the sweet sounds of the Celts.

#### MICKEY HART'S MYSTERY BOX

Produced by Mickey Hart for Rykodisc (1996), Salem, MA, USA Cat. no. CD31597 (54mins) Price: AUD\$19.95, USD\$9.00 (cass.); AUD\$29.95, USD\$15.00 (CD) Available: **Aust**—Festival Records, ph (02) 9660 4022; **USA**—Rykodisc, ph (508) 744 7678.

Mickey Hart (ex-Grateful Dead) is one of the greats of drum music, as well as author of Drumming at the Edge of Magic and Planet Drum. He's assembled a fine bunch of musicians with Zakir Hussain on percussion, Habib Faye on guitar, Jeff Stirling on keyboards, and English vocal group The Mint Juleps. Here, he's tried something completely different from previous productions (Planet Drum, the album, won a musical Grammy in 1991). Hot vocals and instrumental boppy dance music are mixed with world rhythms. Not everything on the album makes it, but there are still some superb tracks on his Mystery Box. Recommended.